

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Kindly amend the specification, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, to read as follows:

Please delete the paragraph on page 25, lines 7-13, and replace it with the following paragraph:

The promoter and terminator used in the present invention are particularly preferably those involved in expression of HU gene (**DNA sequence is disclosed as SEQ ID NO: 1, Amino acid sequence is disclosed as SEQ ID NO: 4**) that is expressed inherently highly in *B. longum*. Specifically, it is preferable that the DNA containing the DNA located in the 1- to 192-positions in SEQ ID NO: 1 is used as the promoter and the DNA in the 472- to 600-positions in SEQ ID NO: 1 as the terminator.